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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Troop Movements in the Koenigsbrueck and Zeithain Area

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 9 November 1954 25X1REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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1. At 1300 on 12 October 1954, the following vehicles arrived at the Zeithain training grounds from the direction of Oschatz;

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20 armored personnel carriers 4 armored personnel carriers 1 armored personnel carriers

mounting 3 light machine guns of 2 twin-barreled machine guns;

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4 armored personnel carriers

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4 x 57-mm AT guns;

8 armored personnel carriers

mounting 1 light or heavy machine gun;

11 4 x 4 armored personnel carriers

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each mounting 1 machine gun;

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6 BA-64 armored scout cars

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2 half-track armored personnel carriers

4 trucks towing 4 x 85-mm AT guns;

4 trucks towing 4 x 37-mm AA guns;

4 trucks mounting 1 AA machine gun each;

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4 trucks towing 4 x 120-mm mortars;

4 trucks towing 4 x 120-mm

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field howitzers;

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Each vehicle was occupied by 6 to 12 soldiers.¹

2. At 0700 on 13 October, the abovementioned units and the following tank unit left the Zeithain training grounds toward east via Pulsen, Frauenhain and Strauch:

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3 salvage tanks;
4 repair shop trucks;
2 tank trucks;
1 field kitchen.

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The roads on which the unit proceeded were marked by white signboards with the red letter "b". Four single-engine fighter aircraft made low-level attacks against the column. Sedan [redacted] occupied by a brigadier general and a colonel of the armored command were seen at a crossing west of Strauch.¹

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3. On 13 October, the following column left the training grounds and Camp Zeithain toward Grossenhain;

About 1500. Four trucks [redacted]
each towing 1 x 85-mm AT gun, and armored personnel carriers [redacted] each towing 1 x 57-mm AT gun.

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About 1600. Trucks [redacted]
each towing 1 x 76-mm AT guns and 16 trucks [redacted]
each towing 1 x 122-mm field howitzer;

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Approximately 23 trucks with ammunition boxes, each occupied by 8 to 10 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets [redacted]

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4. At about 1400 on 13 October, a column of 7 trucks [redacted] towing 3 x 120-mm mortars and occupied by approximately 65 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets proceeded from Riesa toward Grossenhain.²

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5. Between 100 and 1500 on 14 October, reports of tank guns were heard from the Zeithain training grounds. At about noon, 6 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] were seen at the firing range. At 1430, armored personnel carriers [redacted] arrived at the training area from the direction of Riesa. At about 1600, 6 T-34/85 tanks [redacted] practiced driving west of the Rosderau-Falkenberg rail line. At 1100 on 15 October, armored personnel carriers [redacted] left the training grounds toward Riesa.

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6. At about 1500 on 14 October, 3 T-34/85 tanks and, at 1800, another 3 tanks [redacted] entered the von-der-Goltz Kaserne [redacted] in Riesa.

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7. At about 1800 on 15 October, a shipment with approximately 15 trucks, each towing 1 x 37-mm AA gun, 3 armored personnel carriers and 3 boxcars, each occupied by 20 to 25 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, left Riesa toward Roederau.

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8. On 18 October, the following columns went from Koenigsbrueck toward Neues Lager

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1. Comment. At noon on 12 October, a mixed combat group of the 8th Gds Mecz Div arrived at the Zeithain training grounds. Elements of this group were observed leaving Grimma in the morning of the same day.

. After a 24-hour stay at the training grounds, the unit concerned proceeded eastward, probably at least as far as Ortrand and, possibly, from there joined the combat group at the Zeithain training grounds also belonged to the 8th Gds Mecz Div

probably made in connection with exercises which were held at an undetermined location.

2. Comment. In the afternoon on 13 October, the U/1 Arty Regt and elements of the 218th Mort Regt of the 9th Tank Div marched toward Grossenhain. The first mentioned unit came from the Zeithain training grounds and the second unit from its Riesa post. It is possible that the bulk of the Mort Regt left the Zeithain training grounds after the Arty Regt. Since no information has been received on a final fall exercise of the 9th Tank Div, the units may have left for an exercise which started after 14 October.

3. The fact that the columns proceeded toward Neues Lager does not necessarily mean that they entered the installation. Since many vehicles, particularly some of the column seen at 1630, belonged to the 9th Tank Div, it appears possible that exercises of the division were still under way on 18 October.

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